United Nations ST/IC/2008/50

Secretariat

11 September 2008

Information circular*

To: Members of delegations and staff

From: The Under-Secretary-General for Management

Subject: **First day of issue — 18 September 2008: "We Can End Poverty" stamps**

Commemorative stamps

1. On 18 September 2008, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue a set of six commemorative stamps and a souvenir card on the theme "We Can End Poverty".

2. The six stamp designs were selected through an art competition in 2007 by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, which invited children from all over the world to participate as part of the activities to celebrate the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty and the end of the First Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006). Over 12,000 children from 124 countries around the world, ranging from 5 to 15 years of age, participated and the judging was based on artistic expression and how well the design expressed on the theme of the competition.

* Expiration date of the present information circular: 18 October 2008.

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3. The stamps, in a sheet format of 20 stamps on each sheet, will be issued in the denominations of $0.42, $0.94, Swf 1.00, Swf 1.80, €0.65 and €0.75.

(United States equivalents: Swf 1.00: $0.96; Swf 1.80: $1.72; €0.65: $1.01 and €0.75: $1.17; subject to exchange rate fluctuation.)

Souvenir cards

4. A souvenir card on the theme "We Can End Poverty" will also be issued on 18 September 2008. The card depicts the new stamps and carries a statement by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. The souvenir card will be available in mint condition as well as three cancelled varieties. Each cancelled card will be affixed with the stamp from the respective UNPA office in either New York, Geneva or Vienna and cancelled appropriately.

General information

5. For the convenience of collectors, UNPA at Headquarters will provide prepared and cancelled New York, Geneva and Vienna first day covers on the UNPA official first day cachets only. Members of delegations and the staff can obtain these items on Thursday, 18 September, at the following locations:

(a) The UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

(b) Temporary sales counter on the east side of the Secretariat lobby between the cafeteria and the newsstand in front of the windows: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

6. First day of issue cancellations can be obtained at a temporary United States Postal Service substation located outside the United Nations Bookshop in the concourse of the General Assembly Building from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

7. Information on United Nations stamps can be accessed on the Internet at http://unstamps.un.org.